

EDUCATION, EMPLOYMENT AND WORKPLACE RELATIONS

SENATE LEGISLATION COMMITTEE - QUESTIONS ON NOTICE 2008-09 BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING

Outcome 9

DEEWR Question No. EW334_09

Senator Abetz provided in writing.

Question

Homeworkers Code of Practice

What does the clothing supplier or the retailer get in return for paying the fee?

Answer

The Homeworker Code Committee Incorporated (the Committee) advise that in addition to assisting a manufacturer to ensure their products have been produced ethically and in accordance with relevant industrial instruments and legislation, accreditation can benefit a manufacturer in a range of ways including:

- having in place a system to monitor and better understand their supply chains to minimise the potential for exploitation of outworkers,
- access to assistance and tools to help manufacturers determine appropriate pay rates for different types of garment being made by outworkers,
- inclusion in the Committee's promotional and publicity efforts,
- a license to display the 'No Sweat Shop' label on their Australian-made garments; and
- the ability to promote itself as an ethical manufacturer.

It should also be noted that retail signatories and sports/corporate signatories are not required to pay a fee.